

RMD/lil 10/10/2014



**FILED**

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**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

Order Instituting Rulemaking to  
Continue Implementation and  
Administration of California Renewables  
Portfolio Standard Program.

Rulemaking 11-05-005  
(Filed May 5, 2011)

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE'S RULING (1) ISSUING AN ENERGY  
DIVISION PROPOSAL ON THE RENEWABLES PORTFOLIO STANDARDS  
CALCULATOR, (2) ENTERING THE PROPOSAL INTO THE RECORD, AND  
(3) SETTING A COMMENT AND WORKSHOP SCHEDULE**

This ruling serves to issue a proposal by the Commission's Energy Division to revise components of the Renewables Portfolio Standards (RPS) Calculator for the purposes of developing policy based portfolios to potentially inform the Commission's Long-Term Procurement Plan (LTPP) proceeding, Rulemaking (R.) 13-12-010, and the California Independent System Operator's Transmission Planning Process. In addition, this ruling enters the proposal into the record and seeks comments on the proposal. A workshop is also scheduled. A curtesy copy of this ruling is provided today via email to all the addresses on the service list for the LTPP proceeding, R.13-12-010. The revisions to the RPS Calculator proposed by the Energy Division in the Attachment are part of the Commission's effort to update the Least-Cost, Best-Fit methodology used by the utilities when procuring RPS resources.

### **I. Comment Schedule**

Parties may file comments to the attached Energy Division Proposal on or before 45 days after the date of this ruling. Reply comments may be filed within 15 days thereafter.

Comments should respond to the questions in the attached Energy Division proposal. Please respond to the questions in the order in which they appear. Comments should identify the question being answered.

Additional comments will likely be requested after the Energy Division holds a workshop.

### **II. Workshops – January 13 & 14, 2015**

The first workshop will be held on January 13, 2015. An additional day may be needed, January 14, 2015.

The workshops will be held at the Commission's headquarters, 505 Van Ness Ave., San Francisco, California 94102. The workshops will be held from 10:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.

At this workshop, parties will address modifications incorporated in the new version of the RPS Calculator (Version 6.0). A more detailed workshop agenda will be issued to the service list closer to the date of the workshop.

I may then issue a ruling requesting additional comments.

### **III. Guiding Principles for Workshop Comments**

In preparing comments, parties should keep in mind the below general guiding principles for updates and revisions to the RPS Calculator for the purposes of developing policy-based RPS portfolios to use in generation and transmission planning processes. Comments should prioritize issues based on urgency and importance. Comments will inform the agenda for a workshop held and should note the following:

1. Focus on updates and revisions to the RPS Calculator, such as, how results from the RPS Calculator are relied on in Commission's LTPP proceeding and the California Independent System Operation's (CAISO's) Transmission Planning Process, in coordination with the California Energy Commission.
2. Focus on the updates and/or revisions to the RPS Calculator that are of greatest importance, and should specify to what extent the update and/or revision has a material impact on the results of the RPS Calculator.
3. Proposals to use alternative data sources or methodologies should be supported by quantitative and qualitative examples, rely on public data to the greatest extent possible, and should note the extent to which a proposed data source, assumption or methodology has been previously vetted by the Commission or other state agencies or processes.

#### **IV. Materials Regarding Updates and Revisions to the RPS Calculator (Version 6.0)**

Energy Division staff has prepared informational materials to assist parties in their review of the Energy Division's proposed updates and revisions to the RPS Calculator. These informational materials are available at *Recent Updates* on the RPS section of the Commission's website.<sup>1</sup> These materials include:

- 1) An electronic copy (in EXCEL) of the RPS Calculator (Version 6.0),
- 2) A guide (in WORD) explaining methodologies used in RPS Calculator (Version 6.0), and
- 3) PowerPoint presentations for the majority of the topic areas covered in this ruling.

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/PUC/energy/Renewables/index.htm>.

While a final agenda will be provide to the service list at a later date, it is anticipated that the following topics will be discussed at the first workshop:

- Renewable Net Short methodology;
- Renewable resource cost, potential and performance estimates;
- Levelized cost of energy calculations for renewable projects;
- Transmission interconnection and delivery network upgrades cost estimates based on minor and major upgrades needed to support additional development in a Competitive Renewable Energy Zone;
- Capacity value calculations for new renewable generation; and
- Energy value calculations for new renewable generation.

Parties are also asked to provide comments on the below topics:

- Renewable integration costs, including consideration of the impact of renewable procurement on operational flexibility need;
- Updated transmission costs after new CAISO input;
- Treatment of energy-only and partially-deliverable options;
- Treatment of smaller-scale renewable generation; and
- Methodology for considering secondary impacts.

These topics will be addressed in more detail in another ruling.

**IT IS RULED** that:

1. The attached proposal by Energy Division is entered into the record of this proceeding.
2. Comments to the attached proposal may be filed in this proceeding according to the schedule herein.

3. Workshops will be held in this proceeding according to the schedule herein.

Dated October 10, 2014, at San Francisco, California.

/s/ REGINA M. DEANGELIS

Regina M. DeAngelis  
Administrative Law Judge